

Spring 2000

re: Columbia

Columbia College Chicago

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Duff's Legacy: Columbia poised for...

When Columbia president John Duff retires this September after eight years, he will have left an enviable legacy. Under his leadership Columbia College Chicago has emerged as the largest and most comprehensive arts, media and communications college in the country.

Today, Columbia boasts a campus serving 9,000 students and a physical presence of 650,000 square feet. A residence hall, new film stage facilities, new homes for the Music, English and Radio Departments and the Dance Center are milestones that mark Duff's tenure. In addition, Chicago's historic Ludington Building on South Wabash was acquired and now houses a gallery, the Center for Book and Paper Arts and in short time will house the Film/Video Department.

The College continues to support critically acclaimed activities: *DanceAfrica*, the Chicago Jazz Ensemble, the Center for

Black Music Research, the Columbia College Chicago Center for Book and Paper Arts and the Museum of Contemporary Photography are recognized as highlights of our city's cultural life

A positive temperament and relish for challenges have characterized Dr. Duff's career at Columbia. In addressing the Columbia family, Duff said he was most proud of the growth in size, distinction and role of faculty. "Our growing reputation allows us to continually attract faculty with national reputations and widely recognized skills and talents," said Duff... "Working artists and communicators, whose passion for their professions is matched only by their passion for teaching."

Along with its increased facilities, unprecedented student enrollment and an increased staff-to-student ratio, Columbia under John Duff's leadership significantly upgraded its infrastructure. The college invested \$15 million to

upgrade and expand equipment and improve internal technology to enable the entire college community to be connected.

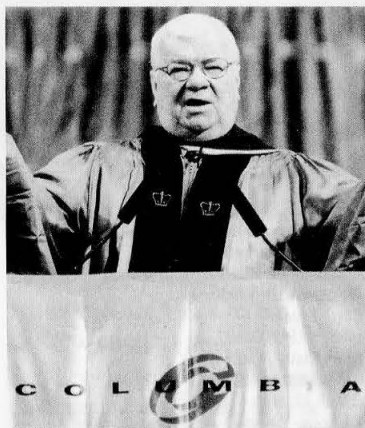
Academically, Columbia has expanded its options and degree programs and launched its division of continuing education (Columbia 2), which recently partnered with the department of Alumni Relations to create the Alumni College.

Given all of its activities, Columbia remains financially stable and its future is limitless. Enrollment has increased steadily--thirty-six percent over the last ten years. And all of this -- importantly -- in the context of an open admissions college, a rare thing indeed.

Columbia's list of accomplishments under John Duff goes on and on. With characteristic generosity Duff credits the collective Columbia community for the college's success. "It is the abiding commitment we all share to

Columbia's mission, and to the best interest of our students," said Duff. "Columbia's greatest strength is its mission, to help our students 'author the culture of their times.' Our market niche and noble sense of purpose are our greatest assets. We must never lose sight of these pillars that provide the foundation for our proud history."

Congratulations and best wishes, Dr. Duff!



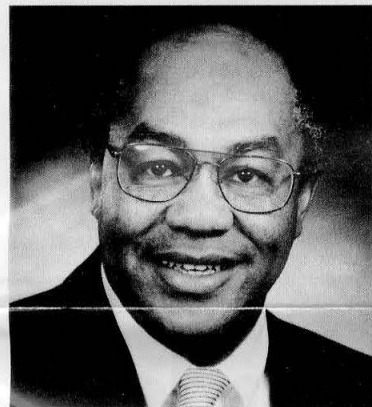
John B. Duff

Re: Columbia No. 26/Spring-Summer 2000

Biannual publication sent free of charge to alumni and friends of Columbia College Chicago



The Future



Warrick L. Carter

On September 1, 2000, Warrick L. Carter will become president of Columbia College Chicago. Carter was the former director of entertainment arts for Walt Disney Entertainment, where he headed a department that recruits and trains a corps of 20,000 performers and technicians. Carter was unanimously elected president by Columbia College's board of trustees and will serve a four-year term.

Carter has a rich history in academia, serving for 12 years as Dean of Faculty and later as Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs at Berklee College of Music, the world's largest independent school of music. At Berklee, Carter administered the largest portion of the college's \$70 million annual budget and served as a member of the President's Cabinet and Council.

Carter is also a composer, jazz percussionist and director of two Internet startup companies.

Carter talks with Jeryl Levin, Director of Alumni Relations, about his vision for the college and the integral role alumni play in moving forward the premier arts, media and communication college in the United States.

What do you hope to accomplish at Columbia?

As I see it, there are four challenges. The first is to increase

Columbia's visibility on the national and world stage. We have a great product and we need to celebrate that.

The second is increasing Columbia's endowment so that we have the funds to do the things we want to do.

Third, we want to enhance communications across all departments, so that we're all working toward the same goal and the right hand knows what the left is doing.

Finally, we have to aggressively reach out to the arts and communications industries to continue to broadcast our successes and develop partnerships that serve the needs of our students, faculty and alumni.

Everything you mentioned goes hand in hand. What role do alumni play in your vision?

Alumni are critical factors in our success. One of my primary goals will be to develop ways in which alumni are always reconnecting with Columbia. This means increasing our communication with them using all available tools, be it through events and special projects, electronically through our Web site or through our alumni newsletter. Alumni need to be kept apprised of noteworthy developments concerning Columbia on a regular basis. And conversely, we need to know about them so that we can continuously celebrate their successes.

Berklee uses its alumni in creative ways. How did alumni remain connected to Berklee?

At Berklee, alumni relations was a top priority. We worked hand-in-glove with alumni and faculty. We brought in 100 alumni representatives annually for training sessions to bring them up to date on developments in the school. They in turn had the knowledge base to act as ambassadors for the school in their respective communities. Alumni can tell their own stories in their own voice, and I see them as the catalyst to increase the college's

visibility. This is true for older and recent graduates. At Berklee, alumni played a large role in keeping enrollment healthy and in raising the stature of the institution.

When you were on campus for your interviews and presentations, you spoken often about the role of artists in the global community. Can you elaborate?

People think of Hollywood as the epicenter of the entertainment industry. But in reality, tenfold more movies are produced in Bombay, India, than in Hollywood. There is a 40-billion industry there. So, as an institution that creates and nurtures artists, we are not talking to ourselves, we're communicating with the world. There are vast opportunities internationally for our students and we need to more fully develop those global relationships through exchange programs for faculty and students.

Columbia alumni are increasingly located not just on the West Coast in large numbers, but also in the East and Southeast. How do we stay connected with them?

We need to develop alumni chapters in cities wherever Columbia alumni live and work. These chapters could serve as welcoming agents for new Columbia grads and as ambassadors for the institution and its faculty, recruiting students and developing a donor base beyond our immediate backyard. Alumni are without doubt the best word-of-mouth for what we do, by virtue of their own successes.

Columbia recently started an "Alumni Network" that provides services to alumni, that plugs them into relevant programming at the college and aims to keep everyone connected through the Internet, continuing education, and people-to-people projects and activities. In your own experiences, why is

networking so important?

Networking is perhaps the most crucial component of professional success and you've got to work at it. You don't walk out of school and step into a job, especially in the arts. You are your own cottage industry. All along the way, connections matter. At Columbia, as our alumni climb the ladder, they are taking other alums with them. On some movie sets, it's not uncommon to see five or ten Columbia graduates employed by a Columbia alumnus who's "made it." The fact that so many of our faculty are working professionals with in-depth knowledge of their respective fields can also mean that our students have a head start when seeking employment.

What do you want to see happen in the area of alumni relations at Columbia?

I'd like to see alumni actively involved all stages of a student's experience at Columbia, from the recruitment of new students to the mentoring of recent graduates.

Second, we need to really work at expanding opportunities for alumni to tell their own stories, be it in small hamlets or on the national or global stage. Alumni are our best advertising.

Third, we need to expand relationships with the businesses that employ Columbia alumni; they can be a source of financial and in-kind support for the institution and the college's endeavors in the community at large.

Last, we want to let alumni know how important they are to us. This means consistently communicating with alumni and providing opportunities to involve alumni at all levels in the college's growth.

for alumni

Around Columbia

People, Places & Events



Re: Columbia
No. 26/Spring-Summer 2000

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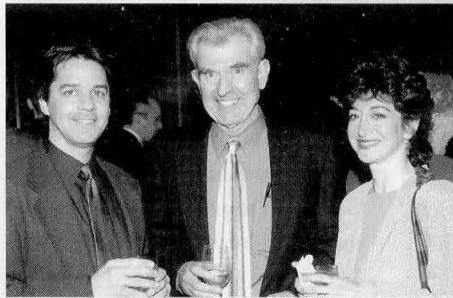
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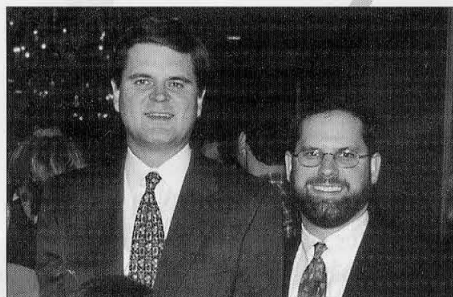
Alum Charles Rudnick, John Schultz and Linda Rudnick at the Fiction Writing Department's "City of Story, City of Jazz" benefit at the Mid-Day Club.



Trustee Madeline Murphy Rabb (second left) hosted a May dinner to benefit Columbia's Center for Black Music Research. Also pictured are (from left) William Warfield, trustee Barry Mayo, Lerone Bennett Jr. and trustee Madeleine Condit.



Allen Turner, Donna LaPietra and Peter Hanig at the Paul Berger Arts Entrepreneurship Awards luncheon at the Moulin Rouge in the Fairmont Hotel.



AOL's Steve Case (left), was the man of the hour and keynote speaker at the 1999 Chicago Communications 25th Anniversary benefit luncheon. Case is pictured with trustee Tony Weisman.



Buddy DeFranco (left) and Bill Russo at the Chicago Jazz Ensemble Benefit Brunch at the Green Dolphin St. Jazz Cafe



Former Chicago meteorologist Jim Tilmon and the TV department's Ed Morris at the March Tribute honoring Ed's contributions to the fields of television and education, at the Chicago Historical Society.

Focus On: Nancy Tom, Founder, Center for Asian Arts and Media



Columbia trustee Nancy Tom founded the Center for Asian Arts and Media at Columbia College in 1998. Inspired by a burst of creativity in contemporary Asian and Asian American art and a corresponding growth of Asian/Pacific Islander populations in the U.S., the Center was established to promote understanding of the historical and contemporary contributions of Asians to American history and culture.

Through symposia, lectures, exhibitions, readings, performances and other public programs, the center highlights works by and about Asians, providing a venue unique to Chicago and the country.

Columbia alumna and writer Shin Yu Pai, talks with the center's founder, Nancy Tom, about her vision for the center and about growing up Asian American.

How did your own experience as an Asian American woman lead you to establish the center, and why at Columbia?

I was born and raised on the North

Shore of Chicago. Back then, we were always the only Asians in the neighborhood, so I never had much exposure to other Asians. Although my parents brought us up with an understanding of the background of China, I grew up thinking I was white.

I married into a family that was more community-minded and began to have more exposure to Asians and Asian organizations. Consequently, I started to become more interested in my own heritage and more involved with Asian projects. When I became a trustee at Columbia, I started asking questions about the services we were providing to the Asians who come here. Very few Asians get involved in the arts and media and I wanted to encourage more to do so.

After speaking with Dr. Woodie White [Columbia's vice president of College Relations and Development], I started a center where Asian students could come, be nurtured, and understand more of their own cultural backgrounds. A scholarship couldn't cover all of this.

It is significant that the center is the only one of its kind in the Midwest. Are there similar organizations on either coast that inspired you?

I didn't model the center on any other place. In Los Angeles there is a Japanese museum and a handful of Asian studies programs exist around the country, but what's being studied are the cultures and languages of Asia. The center focuses exclusively on the arts, not just of Asia

but also on the work of Asian Americans.

How is the center evolving? Past programming has focused attention on Asian American in the arts, whereas more recent programs have brought in international artists like Yoshitomo Nara. How do you decide on your focus?

Integrating all the elements into one vision is challenging. For "New World, New Art", a festival mounted on Navy Pier last summer, it became important to bring people together through the arts and multicultural programming. That's why so many countries and nationalities were involved in the festival. I wanted to showcase Asians performing at mainstream venues outside of Chicago's local communities of Chinatown and Japan Town, so that both Asians and non-Asians would want to attend. The festival was not meant to be an ethnocentric undertaking.

I want to feature programs that bring the generations a little closer, that appeal to more than just one group. It's going to be a better place to live if we're able to learn about other people.

Last year you traveled to China to research material for "The Myth of Shanghai Deco" exhibition. How is that project taking shape?

We're working on another festival for the year 2001, which will focus on Shanghai. There will be live performances, lectures and exhibitions. So far we've been researching the structures of houses during that period

of history as well as the decorative arts. People can see some of the furnishings at Doug Dawson's on Huron. It's something a person sees only once, since so few of these pieces were made. Once they are gone, it will be hard to see them again.

What else does the future hold?

In November, we're hoping to bring Lauren Tom to perform at Columbia in a comedy show focusing on Lauren's upbringing. Lauren discovered at the age of 11 that she was Chinese and not a Jewish American girl growing up in Highland Park! *[ed note--Nancy's daughter, Lauren Tom, starred in "The Joy Luck Club" and "City of Angels" and has been involved in previous activities at the center.]*

We're also planning a conference on advertising and media. I would also like to mount an art exhibition inclusive of all different Asian nationalities, focusing on contemporary works.

What are the center's outreach plans?

To take some of the works and teachings into the public schools; to be able to speak to Asian students and their parents to inspire and teach them that there is a future in the arts. I would also like to work with the international student community at Columbia to explore their fields of interests and plan more cultural exchanges. That said, I also intend to do more programming in Asia to encourage Asians with interests in the arts to make Columbia their choice for an education in the arts.

Colum Alums

Tom Schnecke Manager, Technical Operations and Production Services, NBC 5 Chicago

Whether it's making sure he's got that extra spotlight operator for *Jerry Jones* or cleaning up the cameras from a *Jerry Springer Show* food fight, it's all in a day's work for Tom Schnecke.

As manager of Technical Operations and Production Services for NBC 5 Chicago, Tom makes sure you see and hear the news. His morning starts with a check of the previous night and a recap of the entire broadcast day. Then, depending on what shows are taping, Tom irons out last minute production needs and the scheduling of more than 50 engineers and tech staff that keeps NBC Channel 5 on the air in Chicago.

Schnecke, 40, has been at NBC 5 Chicago for 26 years, though he hardly looks 30 himself. From 1985-1988, he was the engineer and producer of Chicago Bulls Radio, then owned by NBC. Though Tom had been honing his radio skills since high school, when the network sold its radio stations in 1988, Schnecke decided to attend Columbia.

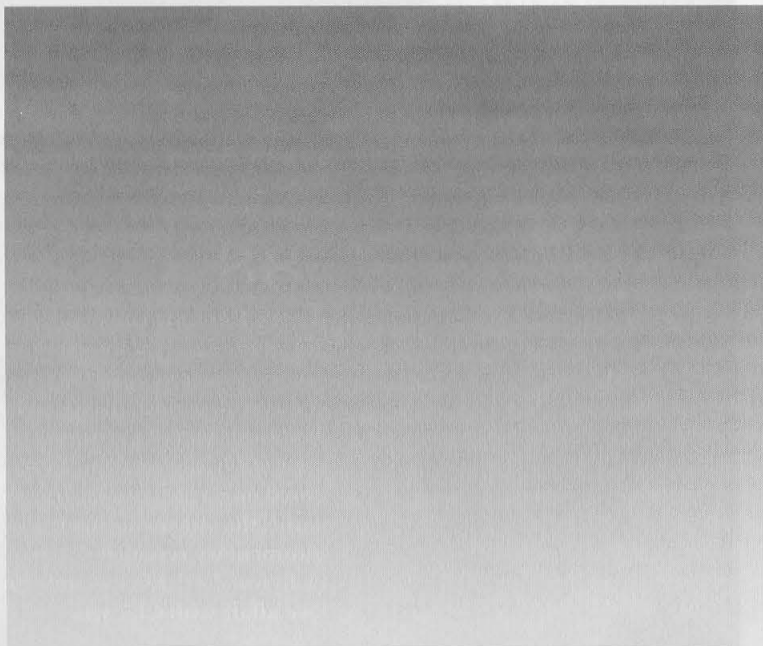
"Channel 5 would have trained me to operate any piece of equipment, but I wanted an edge, so I chose Columbia," he says. And Schnecke liked the flexibility he had as a student at Columbia, which allowed him to work while attending college. He went on to get his masters in radio, television and film from Northwestern.

This summer Tom's overseeing the building and installation of an entire new set for the *Jerry Springer Show*, which involves meeting with the producer and designer, scheduling the stage hands and overseeing the full on-site carpenter shop. He's also prepping for NBC Olympic coverage this fall.

Schnecke hails from Hoffman Estates and attended Hoffman Estates High School. He finds balance from his chaotic workday at home on the North Shore, where he relaxes with wife Judy, a freelance audio mixer, and his three daughters, Caroline, Caitlin and Kelly.

Tom was recently elected to a second term on the board of governors of the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, and last year was honored with a technical Emmy for personal achievement.

"Columbia was a great choice," said Tom. "It allowed me to get hands-on in areas I would have never touched."



Margi Cole Founder, Dance COLlective

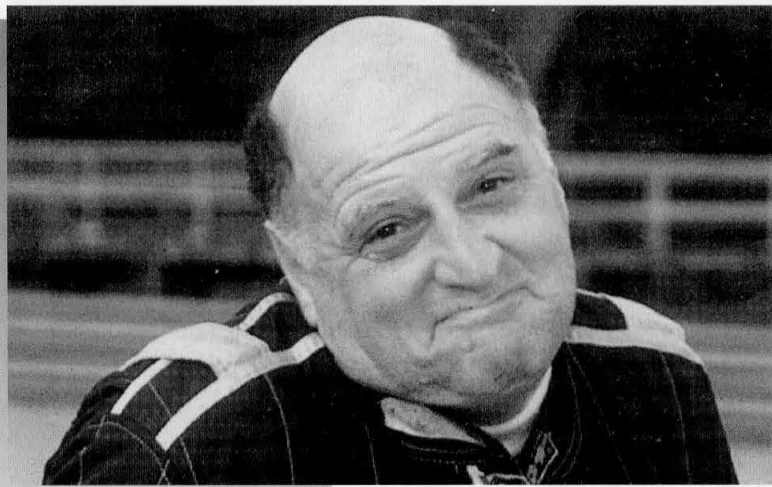
"Lovely and expressive." That's how *Sun-Times* dance critic, Hedy Weiss, described Margi's work in a recent performance of "Through Night as Long as Rain" at the Athenaeum Theatre.

Cole manages and performs in the Dance COLlective, a company she founded in March 1996, after years of working with and teaching in The Dance Center of Columbia College Chicago. An alumna of the dance program, Margi says she got "tired of watching my peers go broke self-producing." Cole credits her company's success to years of administrative experience with Columbia's dance program. "The behind-the-scenes, hands-on knowledge enabled me to create a company and manage it financially," said Margi.

The Dance COLlective performs four to six times a year at festivals and produces its own work. Margi regularly collaborates with dancers and artists outside of her own five-member troupe (four of her dancers are also Colum Alums), an experience she relishes because she can provide opportunities to emerging artists trying to break into the field.

In addition to dancing and producing, Margi is the program manager at Columbia's Office of Community Arts Partnerships (OCAP), where she focuses on developing artistic relationships between communities and the college. Margi says that the synergy with Columbia is constantly unfolding. Alumni board president Bill Cellini is president of her board and two other board members have close connections with the college. Students in the fashion department have made her costumes and faculty member and photographer Bill Frederking has documented her work. And Margi herself serves as an officer on Columbia's alumni board.

"Columbia is everywhere in my life," says Margi, "and I wouldn't have it any other way."



Burt Levy Author, Race Car Driver, Entrepreneur

Burt Levy had two romantic dreams: to drive great racing cars and to write great novels. The winner of more than 70 races and eight championships, Burt also writes regular columns for two national racing magazines. But when he went to publish his first novel, *The Last Open Road*, the story of young New Jersey mechanic Buddy Palumbo who finds love both on and off the track, "just about every major fiction publisher in Manhattan" turned him down. So Burt started his own company, Think Fast Ink, which published *The Last Open Road* in 1999; it's now in its fourth hardcover printing.

As his own publisher, Burt was able to give his product the attention no mainstream publisher affords a first novel about racing. Burt took to the road, so to speak, engaging in some off the wall advertising and promotional campaigns like hanging posters for the book above urinals in racetracks. That was one way to ensure a captive audience, Burt says, and it must have worked. *The Last Open Road* was picked up by St. Martin's press and is now a genuine cult classic on the motorsports and classic car racing scene.

Levy's second novel, *Montezuma's Ferrari*, continues the travails of Road's protagonist, Buddy Palumbo, as he pursues his racing dream against the wishes of his Italian American family, circa 1952. *Ferrari* is the first novel ever to be funded entirely by 32 pages of full-color period advertising and sponsorships woven into the context and theme of the book.

This unorthodox entrepreneurial device got *Ferrari* nominated for the Publishers Marketing Association's "Benjamin Franklin Book of the Year Award." It was also selected Book of the Month by England's prestigious *Classic and Sports Car* magazine. Not bad for a writer eschewed by the publishing establishment.

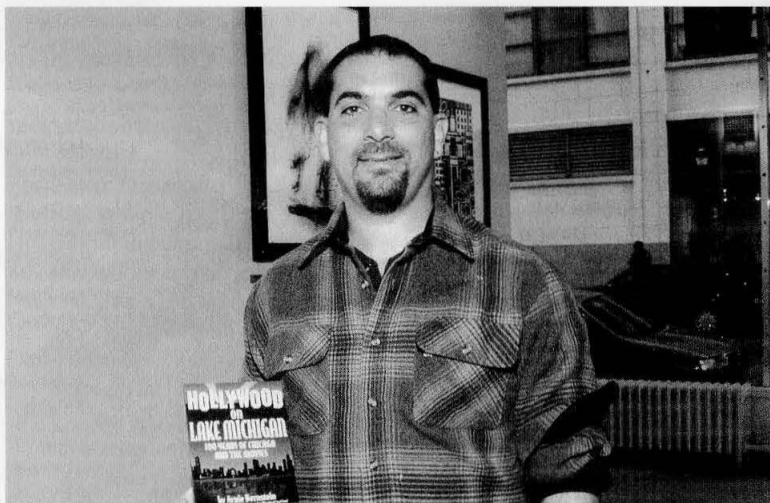
Burt grew up in Winnetka and graduated New Trier in 1964. After three years at Michigan State, he returned to Chicago to attend Columbia, where he was in one of John Schultz's first Story Workshop writing courses. After bumming around awhile, he bought his first race car, a beat-up Triumph TR3 for \$600. He graduated to an Alfa Romeo, winning local amateur races and championships. He was serving as a stunt driver in the movie *The Blue Brothers*, when he was held at gunpoint and relieved of a Rolls Royce Silver Shadow convertible during a test drive.

Burt is married to Carol Pecora, who he met on a blind date. They live with their son Adam and their ill-tempered Fox Terrier in Oak Park, Ill., where Burt is working on his next novel.

Author The Culture



Chris McCauley exhibited her work at the First Annual Alumni Invitational, June 12, at the Ludington Building's Glass Curtain Gallery.



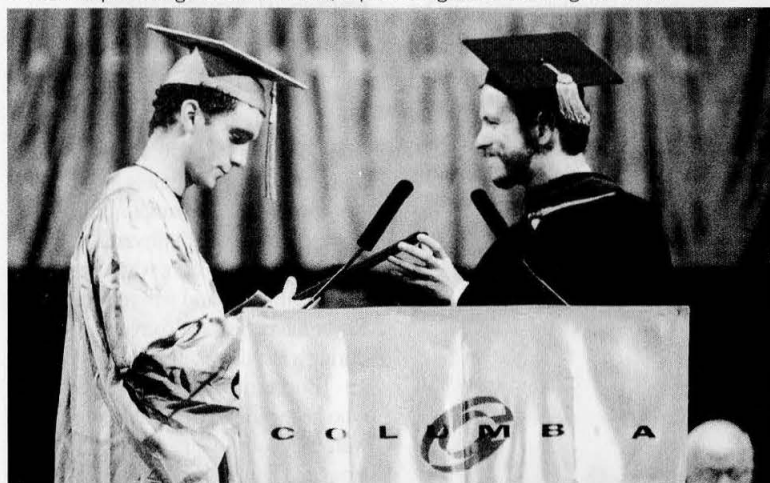
Author Arnie Bernstein (*Hollywood on Lake Michigan*) wrote the book on "Our Town's" claim to fame. He was guest speaker at the April Alumni Network dinner.



Alums Kathy Millard (bottom second left) and Robert Kusel (top center left) on a photo shoot for the "Fashion Columbia 2000" scholarship benefit



Weisman scholarship winner Josh Rubenstein took this photo of Geoffrey Watts, a monumental figure in the CTA performance community. Rubenstein parlayed his scholarship winnings to create *Gaia*, a photomagazine featuring his work.



Class 2000 valedictorian Louis Calvano (left) accepts his Alumni Award for Academic Excellence from Alumni Board president and trustee, Bill Cellini

Coast-to-Coast Alumni Roundup

'46

J.C. Wolfenberger is corporate secretary-treasurer at Masonic Temple Foundation Inc., a Knoxville-based fraternal charitable organization that helps the disabled lead full, active lives.

'77

Bill Dahl was awarded the 1999 Keeping The Blues Alive Award for Journalism from the Memphis-based Blues Foundation. A freelance music writer, focusing on blues and roots music, his work is routinely published in the *Chicago Reader* and *Living Blues* magazine.

Jay Robinson is director of operations at Buffalo Grove-based Corvison Media Inc., which produces and distributes corporate training videos for business and government clients.

'78

Shirley Madlock was elected to the board of the Maywood Fine Arts Association. She also teaches a gospel aerobics course at the Rock of Ages Baptist Church and works full-time in corporate sales at Cellular One.

'79

Greg Legan is executive director of the Carterville-based John A. Logan College Foundation, located in Carterville Illinois.

'81

Barbara Martin is a color supervisor at Perfect Image Inc, a custom photo lab.

'85

Ray Ives is president of Incite Creative, an award-winning Internet development company, whose clients include Motorola, Great Lakes Credit Union, Stadteck and Speedscan, among others. Ray's company created pro-bono the site for OC Aware.com, which works to increase funding for ovarian cancer research.

Vincent Verdooren is group creative director at Burrell Communications Group.

'86

Joan Hammel is president of Paxton Productions, a firm that markets promotional products.

Lucho Castilla is president and leader of Island Dreams, a multiethnic ensemble of Chicago-based musicians specializing in Latin, Caribbean and Jazz music. Group members have performed and recorded with such legends as Frank Sinatra, Dizzy Gillespie, Aretha Franklin, Tito Puente and Celia Cruz.

John Watanabe is the on-camera co-host and play-by-play announcer for the English language *Frontier Martial Arts Wrestling*, Japanese pro wrestling home video series and pay-per-view events.

Donald Weiss is director of community relations for the Village of Addison.

'87

Mike Galiatsatos is account manager at Grey Direct, a subsidiary of Grey Advertising in New York.

Frank Hanes is founder and president of Big Shoulders Digital Video Productions.

'88

Arnie Bernstein guest starred at Columbia's Alumni Network dinner, where he entertained guests with a video presentation of *Hollywood on Lake Michigan: 100 years of Chicago and the Movies*. Based on Arnie's book of the same name, the video and Arnie's commentary revealed Hollywood's fickle, yet enduring, love affair with Chicago.

Richard Bental is financial advisor at the Naperville office of Waddell & Reed.

Mary Janninick is currently director of product development at Itasca-based Enesco Corporation, a worldwide giftware wholesaler.

'89

William A.J. Golonski received the *Frank and Lillian Gilbreth Industrial Engineering Award*, sponsored by the Institute of Industrial Engineering. The award recognizes individuals who have distinguished themselves by contributing to humankind through the use of industrial engineering.

Bill Rodman earned his second Suncoast Emmy award for writing a documentary entitled *Iberville, After the Red Stick*. The documentary recounts the modern-day commemoration of a canoe trip that French explorer Iberville took from Baton Rouge to the Gulf of Mexico, 300 years ago. Rodman currently works as a feature/special projects reporter, producer, photographer and editor at WAPB Television in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. His first Suncoast Emmy was for his doc "China: In Search of a Cure."

'90

John Detwiler is Web technology coordinator at LTD Commodities Inc.

'91

Carol Lee Lott coordinates rehearsal and performance for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

'92

Brett Liljegren is account executive at Meyer & Wallis, a communications firm headquartered in Milwaukee, WI.

Carol Havlik is box-office manager with the Naples Players in Florida.

'93

Steven Tipler joined Fredrickson & Byron, a Minneapolis law firm. Tipler is a member of the firm's Mergers & Acquisitions, Corporate & Commercial, Business & Tax Law and Securities groups. He previously served as the judicial clerk for Minnesota Supreme Court Justice **Russell A. Anderson**. He graduated *magna*

cum laude from William Mitchell College of Law in 1998, after he completed his undergrad work in journalism at Columbia.

'94

Blake Coglianese is art director at Epic Interactive.

Patricia Lee is a media buyer at John Iltis Associates, a Chicago public relations and marketing firm.

'95

Chester Gregory recently portrayed singer Jackie Wilson, in *My Heart is Crying, Crying, the Jackie Wilson Story*, produced by The Black Ensemble Theatre Company.

Richard Izui was profiled in the photography journal *ASMP's Lupe*. Izui, whose clients include Ford Motor Company, GM and Mobil, recently built a two-wall cyclorama in his Evanston studio that can accommodate cars and other large-scale objects.

Donna Jagielski is a dance specialist for the Andrew Cooke Magnet School in Waukegan. She is also founder of the dance company, 98.6 Fahrenheit.

'96

Gary Guzman (Columbia class valedictorian) recently won the London International Advertising Award for composing the music entitled "Midnight Thunder," for Gatorade. Guzman is staff producer and composer at Spank Music and Sound Design. Clients include Coca-Cola, McDonald's, Quaker and Firestone

Michael Wojcik is grants manager at Near North Health Services Corporation, a community health center in Chicago.

'97

Matt Lo Cascio is broadcast producer at WTTW-Channel 11.

Michael Madina is engineer at Midwest Visual Communications, which sells and services audio-visual equipment.

Ray Torres is Web designer at DDB Digital.

Bernadette Shanahan is promotions and advertising coordinator at WCJU, Chicago's Channel 26.

'98

Sarah Garcia is benefits consultant at the Elmwood Park office of AFLAC Insurance.

Carla Mutone is automotive advertising representative at the *Chicago Tribune*.

Linda Solotaire is executive director of the Village Loom, an Evanston nonprofit that collects true stories from Evanston residents, which are adapted into plays using local talent.

'99

Anastasia Athen-Stothoff is art director at the Sherwood Group, a association management company, in Northbrook.

of Your Times

'00

Josh Rubinstein was profiled on WTTW's *Artbeat Chicago*. He earned a \$3,000 Albert Weisman Scholarship from Columbia, which he parlayed to create the photo magazine, *Gaia*.

more...

Joseph Drosset is vice president of Business Development at SEI New Ventures Group in Oak Brook. **Tom Popps** short story, "Terracotta," was published in the March 2000 issue of *Velocity Magazine*. **Joe Meno's** story "Bustle in the Window" was accepted by *Tri-Quarterly* and his online serial fiction, "The Secret Hand," is currently running on *Playboy.com*. **Deborah Grant, Chris McCauley, Timothy Ripley and John Lustig** exhibited their fine works at the First Annual Alumni Invitational, June 12, at the Ludington Building's Glass Curtain Gallery. **Elaine Equi** was awarded the Poetry Center Book Award of San Francisco State University for her seventh poetry collection *VOICE-OVER*, published by Coffee House Books of Minneapolis.

East Coast

'58

Fraser Head is president of Arena Television Management Services Inc., a Connecticut-based company that designs and installs video and broadcast facilities (jumbo-trons) in arenas and stadiums across the U.S.

'83

JoAnn Della-Giustina, who helped to coordinate Columbia's NYC alumni event in December, '99, is pursuing a Ph.D. in criminal justice. In July she will present a paper entitled "Domestic Violence; Comparisons of Russia and Nicorogwa," in Bologna, Italy.

'84

Tia Tibbitts-Levinson is currently managing director of Susan Marshal & Company, a NYC-based dance company.

'89

Sherelle Harris heads the children's library at the South Norwalk Connecticut Public Library.

'91

Kevin Mann is senior art director at Comgroup, a Syracuse based advertising agency that serves communication and technology firms.

Blair Rainey is collection assistant at the Buhl Foundation. The foundation collects and preserves photographs of human hands, among other things. Every year Rainey helps select photos to be included in its annual calendar.

'93

Travis Roozee works for an independent photographer on assignments for *Vanity Fair*, *People* and *GQ* magazines.

'94

Marilyn Devedjiev is owner of

52 Millimeter, a design studio that creates Web sites and paint and motion graphics for clients including the National Hockey League and MTV Online.

'95

Dan Strickland was panelist for "Thinking of Making the Switch? Negotiating the New Media Employment Market," held at NBC's Rockefeller Plaza.

'96

Devin McKenna is account executive at Middleberg & Assoc., a NYC-based pr firm. She works exclusively with dot.com clients including Delias.com and sesamestreet.com.

'98

Nicole Emmons is assistant animator at Nickelodeon Animation Studios New York. She works on the children's show "Little Bill," a digital cartoon.

Kathleen Saalfeld is a graduate student at the New York School of Visual Arts, majoring in sculpture.

Diana Sanchez lives in Brooklyn, NY, where she promotes Spanish rock and works as a graphic designer.

West Coast

'78

Charlie Carner wrote and directed *Who Killed Atlanta's Children?*, a Showtime feature starring James Belushi and Gregory Hines. Fellow alums **Michael Goi** (director of photography), **Mark Leif** (editor) and **Al Magliochetti** (main titles and visual effects) also worked on the project.

'80

Michael Goi traveled eight countries on four continents in two months to complete a four-minute promotional film for Nortel Communications, which was shown at the Telecom '99 convention in Geneva, Switzerland.

'87

Cynthia Pusheck was featured in *Variety's* "50 to Watch." She also won an Artistic Achievement Award from the International Photographers Guild for the short film, *One Hand Left*.

'88

Cary Noren is manager of marketing and advertising at Warner Brothers.

'90, 91

Bob Teitel ('90) and **George Tillman**, ('91) creators of the movie *Soul Food*, have adapted their screenplay into a television series for Showtime. The duo's new movie, *Navy Diver*, starring Robert DeNiro and Cuba Gooding Jr., is scheduled for August release.

Jerry Vasilatos, president of Columbia's West Coast Alumni Association, released the video, *The Blair Witch Rejects*, a parody on the hit independent film. Vasilatos wrote, produced, directed and edited the spoof, now available on Amazon.com and

through his own Nitestar Home Video (www.Nitestar.com). The cast also includes Colum Alums **Kevin Leadingham**, **Lisa Nowicki** and **Sam Schorr**.

'93, '94

Kenny Young ('93) and **Carl Seaton, Jr.** ('94) shot their first feature film, which took the top two awards at the Acapulco Film festival. *One Week*, chronicles the week prior to the marriage of a man who discovers he might have contracted HIV. Produced by their company, Griot Filmworks, *One Week* won Best U.S. Film and the Lincoln Filmmakers Trophy. Young and Seaton plan to premier their film at the Chicago International Film Festival in October.

'96

Kevin Leadingham treated Columbia to the Chicago premier of his doc *A Refugee and Me*. Refugee recounts the experience of Burmese-Karen refugee Tway Thongdee's futile quest for an identity card to allow him to work for a living wage in Thailand. Leadingham's film is a provocative exploration of identity, nationalism and the friendship that develops between the filmmaker - a native of the North Shore - and the rootless Thongdee.

more...

Andy Hill was music supervisor on Disney's *Annie*, which aired on ABC. He also supervised and produced the original songs for Sony's *The Adventures of Elmo in Grouchland*, which was among the Grammy nominees for Best Musical Album for Children. Husband and wife team of **Jeff Roberts** and **Katherine Mueller** headed to LA after wrapping Interlight Pictures' Chicago production of *Driven*, starring Keanu Reeves and James Spader. Jeff was camera operator and Katherine camera assistant. **Steve Pink** and **D.V. DeVincentis** co-wrote the screenplay for *High Resolution*, starring John Cusack. Both marked their feature film writing debut with *Grosse Pointe Blank*, which they co-wrote with Cusack and Tom Jankiewicz.

In Memoriam

Columbia alumna **Hillary Kalish** died on June 7. An extraordinary woman, Hillary lived to accomplish her dream of graduating with honors in 1995. She went on to fulfill her next goal, which was to help select Columbia College students to receive a unique scholarship.

The Hillary R. Kalish Scholarship has been awarded each year since 1996 to help medically and financially challenged students complete their undergraduate degrees. After she graduated, Hillary helped to select up to three award recipients each year who demonstrate courage and determination to fulfill their dreams.

Hillary is survived by her parents, Nedra and Ron, her brother, Geoff, his wife, Michele, and her nephews, Ben and Eli.

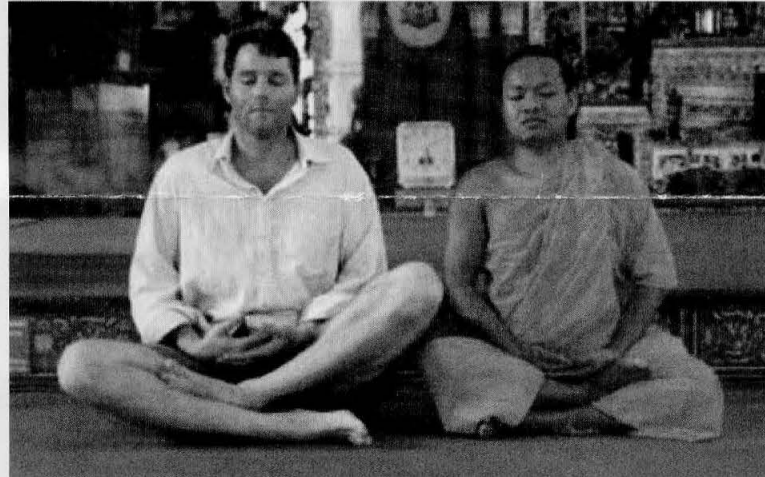
For more information on how you can help, please call Pattie at 312/344-8134.



"New Media" guru Dan Strickland at Columbia's East Coast alumni dinner, held in NYC at the Williams College Club, in December 1999.



California alum, Mauro Fiore, tied the knot with Christine Volmer in May. Fiore was director of photography on fellow alum Janusz Kaminski's directorial debut, *Lost Souls*, starring Wynona Ryder.



Kevin Leadingham (left) with friend Tway Thongdee. Kevin's film, *A Refugee and Me*, documents the Burmese-Karen monk's elusive search for a Thai identity card.



The late Hillary Kallish (right) with Hillary R. Kallish Scholarship coordinator, Pattie Mackenzie. Hillary founded the scholarship to benefit medically and financially challenged students.



Lucho Castilla (center) and his band, Island Dreams, performs Latin, Caribbean and Jazz music for all occasions. Members have recorded and performed with Sinatra, Aretha Franklin, Dizzie Gillespie, Celia Cruz and other legends.

Inside Columbia

Academic Computing

Andrea Polli finished an artist's residency at the Center for Research in the Computing Arts at the University of California San Diego. This summer she will produce *pause*, a large-scale public art project, as an artist-in-residence at the Chicago Cultural Center with grants from the Mid-Atlantic Arts Council and Ameritech.

Art & Design

Mario Castillo's study of naguals (shamans) in Mexican folklore (pictured) is included in the Davis publication *Exploring Colored Pencil*. **Kay Hartmann's** logo for cee3, a design group dedicated to serving not-for-profit arts groups, was recently chosen for design excellence and inclusion in *American Corporate Identity/16*. The group is led by Hartmann and Rich Zeid with three recent Columbia graduates as designers. **Max King Cap** will take part in a group painting exhibition at the Barrister Gallery in New Orleans. **Thomas Plum** received a Community Arts Assistance Program Grant from the City of Chicago, to fund work in sonic art and for studio time at the Chicago-based Experimental Sound Studio.

Center for Black Music Research

Johann Buis was a continuing lecturer in the Chicago Symphony Orchestra's pre-concert lecture series in March. **Stop-Time**, under the direction of **T. S. Galloway**, presented free community-based lecture demonstrations at Providence-St. Mel High School, the Field Museum, Malcolm X College, and the DuSable Museum of African American History.

Coleridge-Taylor Perkinson's Statements: Sonata No.2 for Piano (1975) has been recorded by two artists on CD: *Dark Fires, Volume 2*, Karen Walwyn, piano (Albany Records U.S. Troy 384) and *A la Par: Music of David Baker, Tania Leon, Wendell Logan, Coleridge-Taylor Perkinson, Michael Kim*, piano (Composers Recordings, Inc., CRI 823). **Sterling Stuckey**, the 1999-2000 CBMR Rockefeller Resident Fellow, presented a public lecture, "Paul Robeson, Richard Wright, and Black Intellectual History," in April at Chicago Park District's South Shore Cultural Center.

Marcos Sueiro engineered the live CD *Yoko Meets John by Yoko Noge & The Jazz Me Blues Band*, featuring John Watson, Sonny Seals, Clark Dean, Phil Thoma, and Tatsuo Aoki. Sueiro's label, Tie Records, released the Christmas CD compilation, *Reindeer Sushi*. Profits benefit the Community Outreach Interventions Project, an AIDS organization.

Dance

Jan Erkert has been invited to choreograph a work for four Minneapolis artists in July 2001. **Shirley Mordine** will conduct a series of workshops for professional and pre-professional dance students and is working with **Wade Roberts** (Fiction Writing/Television) on developing a course that melds dance, writing, and technology. **Anna Paskevsk**a produced a CD for ballet class with pianist Olga Meyer and a video for instruction *en pointe* for Princeton Books. This summer she will teach master classes for the National Ballet of Uruguay and the University of Taipei-Taiwan. **Kevin Rechner** was the lighting director for the world premiere of *Akira Kasai's Tinctura 2'* at the Dance Center. **Deborah Siegel** performed her dance and text piece "Scraps & Stitches/Scribbles & Dreams" as part of the *Here & There Project* at Link's Hall. **Richard Woodbury** composed music for the Broadway production of O'Neill's *A Moon for the Misbegotten*. He is currently working on a new score for a dance choreographed by **Rebecca Lazier** and a score/sound design for an Adler Planetarium sky show on Pawnee Indian cosmology.

Dance Therapy

Susan Imus presented a survey of the contemporary dance scene at the Newberry Library as part of the program *Chicago Dance: Past and Present*.

Early Childhood Education

Carol Ann Stowe and Sujata Verma (Math Department) received a grant to work as an interdisciplinary team and develop a course, "Brain Basics: Health and Development of Young Children," to be offered next fall.

Education Studies

Ava Belisle-Chatterjee co-presented "Using Standards-Based Curricula With Second Language Learners: A Practical Model Linking Mathematics and ESL," at the National Council for Mathematics and Science's annual conference.

English

Garnett Kilberg Cohen's "Passion Town" and "Proposal," were winners in Triton College's national poetry contest and will appear in the literary magazine *Ariel*. **Sharon Darrow's** young adult novel, *The Painters of Lexieville* will be published in Fall, 2001 by Candlewick Press. **Paul Hoover's** seventh poetry collection, "Totem & Shadow: New & Selected Poems," was reviewed in the March/April issue of *Poetry Flash* and the February *Bloomsbury Review*. **Tony Trigilio** presented "Writing from the Peak: Body, Speech, and Mind in the Creative Writing Classroom," at the 2000 Associated Writing Programs Conference.

Fiction Writing

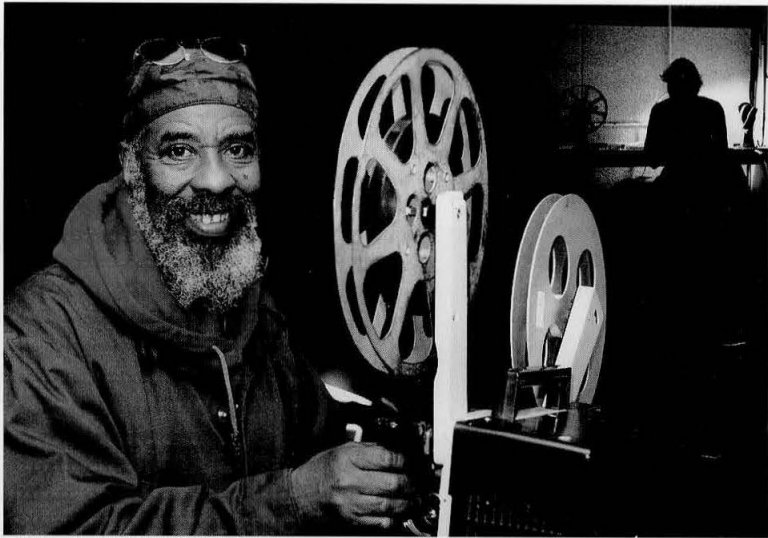
Hair Trigger 21 was awarded a Silver Crown from the Columbia University Scholastic Press Association in March, and placed in the top four of more than 200 magazines entered. **Carson Becker** has been commissioned by the Goodman Theater to write "By the Music of the Spheres"—a project for hearing and deaf actors—with Chicago playwright David Barr. **Phyllis Eisenstein's** short story, "The Island in the Lake," was nominated for the Nebula Award given annually by the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America. **Gary Johnson** received a Silver Reel Award for his story, "Wrongful Convictions & the Death Penalty," at the New Orleans convention of the San Francisco-based National Federation of Community Broadcasters. **Eric May** and **Patricia McNair Lewis** have been named associate faculty at the Stonecoast Writers' Conference this summer at the University of Southern Maine.

Film/Video

Doreen Bartoni presented "Looking at the Standard Introductory Film Course from a Production Angle," in March at the Society for Cinema Studies 2000 Conference in Chicago. **Charlie Celander's** book *Chicago's South Shore*, was published in December by Arcadia as part of the "Images of America" series. It features photos taken or collected by his late father of the South Shore neighborhood between the late 1800s and the 1960s. **Dan Dinello's** story, "Global Multiplex: Next-Generation Entertainment Web Sites Bring a New Wave of Short Films to Your Desktop," appeared in the Chicago *Tribune*. **Ted Hardin** has made two films, *Fire of Life* and *Humanity*. **Michael Rabiger** gave workshops on documentary film production at the University of Buenos Aires and the Jerusalem Film School. His new book, *Developing Story Ideas*, has been published by Focal Press and is available on Amazon.com.

Interdisciplinary Arts

Jeff Abel recently presented a paper on Arnold Schoenberg's 2nd String Quartet at a musical conference in Vienna. **Nana Shineflug's** dance company, The Chicago Moving Company, performed its home season at the Harold Washington Library and was in residence at Milliken University in April. **Nancy Vachon** has been selected to receive a Year 2000 Community Arts Assistance Program grant from the City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and the Illinois Arts Council.



Ronn Pitts, Columbia teacher, veteran filmmaker and civil rights documentor, broke the all-white film industry barrier more than 40 years ago. Today, he is giving others the chance to shine with a scholarship fund established in his name.

True to the gentle and generous character of Ron Pitts (and Columbia College's mission) the veteran filmmaker, mentor and teacher has established a scholarship fund to aid those talented and motivated students who want an education in film and video.

The **Ronn Pitts Film/Video Scholarship Fund** will support High School Summer Institute scholarships, full-time undergraduate scholarships and "Semester in LA" scholarships.

Friends and alumni of the college are working with Pitts to make the dream a reality. A kick-off event to jump start the fund will be held in Los Angeles this fall.

For more information on the Ronn Pitts Scholarship Fund, please call Kathrene Wales at 312/344-7625.



Sidney Smith Gordon and Enid Long (top left) and Sam Pfeffer and Dr. David Solomon (top right) were recently honored as Lifetime Trustees. They are pictured with college board chair Alton Harris and president John B. Duff. Dr. Zafra Lerman (bottom left) head of Columbia's Institute for Science Education, received the White House's Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring in Washington DC on December 6, 1999. Hubert Selby (right), author of *Last Exit to Brooklyn*, *The Room* and *Demon* appeared at the Fiction Writing Dept.'s "Story Week," April 10-15. President's Club Members (center) enjoy an evening at Columbia's Center for Book and Paper Arts.

In Memoriam

Doris Fine, the wife of Columbia's Fred Fine, died on May 13, 2000, after a short illness.

Doris and Fred were married for 35 years. Fused by common valor, they fought and prevailed in many social struggles of the last century.

During the Great Depression Doris worked on the assembly lines, in packing houses and in automobile and garment factories. Later, she entered the health care field, working for the Chicago Medical Society, and for 17 years was the office manager for a heart and blood pressure research project at Northwestern University.

Doris was raised in Chicago's Humboldt Park neighborhood. She met Fred in their junior year together at Tuley High. Together they celebrated the joys of their love and their mutual pleasure of the arts and travel.

Doris was known and admired for her commitment to progressive, cultural and humane causes. Her life was filled with loving relationships.

Doris is survived by Fred, their son Lawrence and his wife, Jamie.



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